



3333 Glenmore Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45211
Phone 513/661-2777 – Fax 513/389-3092
www.wesleycs.org

PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Stephen Smookler
Executive Director
661-2777, cell 910-1714
Email: ssmookler@wesleycs.org

Wesley Community Services Receives National Grant For Pet Food Program

Wesley Community Services “Pet Portions” program where seniors with pets receive free dog or cat food is proud to be one of 38 organizations nationwide to receive funding from the Meals-On-Wheels Association of America (MOWAA). “Funds received from MOWAA will help Wesley Community Services buy additional pet food for our clients” said Stephen Smookler, Executive Director. MOWAA has established the “We All Love Our Pets (WALOP)” program to provide support and materials to Meals-On-Wheels programs providing pet food. “We are delighted to award Wesley Community Services \$800.00 to support their seniors and pets. The WALOP program will help ensure that no senior or pet goes hungry,” said Enid Borden, CEO of MOWAA.

Wesley Community Services began its “Pet Portions” program in June 2006 with the assistance and collaboration of Iams Corporation and SPCA Cincinnati. Pet food has been provided by Iams and stored at the SPCA facility. Well over 30,000 pounds pet food has been distributed. In addition, Hyde Park Community United Methodist Church congregation members have donated hundreds of pounds of pet food to supplement the food received from Iams Corporation. About 15% of Wesley Community Services clients have a pet dog or cat.

Wesley Community Services has as its mission to provide services to seniors so that they may remain in their homes for as long as possible. Wesley Community Services provides Meals-On-Wheels, medical transportation and homemaker/housecleaning services to seniors throughout the Cincinnati area. In 2006 nearly 200,000 Meals-On-Wheels were delivered, over 20,000 medical transports covering 291,000 miles were completed and over 15,000 hours of homemaker services were provided to over 1,700 area seniors. Wesley Community Services is a contracting agency of the Council on Aging of Southwestern Ohio and is a partner agency of United Way of Greater Cincinnati.

ABOUT MEALS ON WHEELS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

MOWAA is the oldest and largest organization in the United States representing those who provide meal services to people in need. MOWAA works toward the social, physical, nutritional, and economic betterment of vulnerable Americans. The guiding principle to which it subscribes is to help those men and women who are elderly, homebound, disabled, frail, or at risk. MOWAA provides the tools and information its programs need to make a difference in the lives of others, "so no senior goes hungry."®

###